Export of Rice

3858. SHRI SOM PAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of rice imported and exported during the past three years;

(b) whether Government are considering any strategy to make its presence more stable in the international market;

(c) what are the major problems in regular export of rice; and

(d) what steps are being taken to overcome these ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a)

Year	Exports	Imports
	Qty. in tons	Qty. in tons
1989-90	4,21,737	5,44,485
1990-91	5,05,029	66,038
1991-92	7,11,416	12,117

(b) Yes, Sir. Government is keen that India should have a stable presence in the international market.

(c) The major problems have been regarding :

(i) Availability of surpluses;

(ii) Price competitiveness;

(iii) Inadequacy of infrastructural support during the peak season.

(d) Government has taken necessary steps to increase production and productivity of rice, so as to have substantial surpluses for exports, have capacity to compete in the international market. The Government has also been taking steps to upgrade and improve the infrastructural facilities to take care of the expanding tonnage.

Income Earned by MMTC on counter Trade with Canpotex

3859. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2345 given in the Raya Sabha on 15th March, 1993 and state :

(a) whether MMTC has received any income on account of Canpotex counter trade exports from the years 1986 to 1990; and

(b) if so, the names of the parties and the amount received during the above period, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) *Yes, Sir.*

(b) The names of the parties and the amount received by the MMTC during the period 1986-87 to 1990-91 are given below :—

Year	Name of parties (nominees)	Approximate Income recd. by MMTC (US $)
1986-87	—	—
1987-88	Canpotex, Canada	95
1988-89	Canpotex, Canada	
	Transnational, Canada	27650
1989-90	Inter Spine Singapore	3383
1990-91	Horizon, Singapore	3908
	MG. Services, Germany	8848
	—do—	8743
	Sulfos, Switzerland	403